

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: ADS: DECLAS: 12-31-75

TAGS: ETEL, OCON, NATO

SUBJECT: ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE (EMP) MEETING AT NICSMA

SECDEF FOR DTACCS, DCA FOR CODE 400, DNA FOR STVL

SUMMARY: NICSMA CONVENED WORKING GROUP AT NICSMA NOV 19-20, 1974, FOR EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS OF EMP PROTECTION FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (NICS). NEXT MEETING IS PLANNED BEFORE CHRISTMAS 1974.

END SUMMARY.

1. AGENDA INCLUDED: THREAT CRITERIA, DEFINITION OF THREAT LEVEL, PROTECTIVE MEASURE, FACTORS AFFECTING SHIELDING EFFICIENCY, TESTING METHODS, OTHER DESIGN ASPECTS, AND COST ESTIMATES OF EMP SHIELDING.

2. REPS OF NORWAY, DENMARK, NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, US (LTC GLOVER DCA, AND MAJ WALKER DNA) DISCUSSED VARIOUS TECHNIQUES
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OF EMP PROTECTION. LTC GLOVER GAVE EXCELLENT OVERVIEW OF METHODS USED BY US, WELL RECEIVED BY THE GROUP. (SAME PRESENTATION WAS ALSO GIVEN TO NATO WORKING GROUP OF NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXPERTS, EQUALLY WELL

RECEIVED.)

3. DISCUSSION OF LEVEL OF HARDENING REQUIRED FOR NICS INSTALLATIONS RANGED FROM ORIGINAL NATO SPECIFICATION OF 35 DB TO LEVELS OF 100 TO 120 DB. CONSENSUS OF GROUP WAS THAT LEVEL OF PROTECTION SHOULD BE IN THE ORDER OF 60 TO 70 DB, AND THAT NATO SHOULD AMEND AC/270-D/102 ACCORDINGLY.

4. WORKING GROUP AGREED THAT NICSMA SHOULD CONSIDER ONLY THE EXO-ATMOSPHERIC THREAT (AS DEFINED IN NATO AC/225(PANEL VII) DOCUMENTS) IN DEVELOPING EMP PROTECTION FOR NICS INSTALLATIONS.

5. GROUP ALSO CONCLUDED THAT:

A. EMP SHIELDING SHOULD INCLUDE ENTIRE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AREA, INCLUDING ASSOCIATED WORKSHOPS AND STORAGE AREAS.

B. ALTHOUGH NO DEFINITE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE, NICSMA MAY REQUIRE MANUFACTURERS TO IMPROVE EMP PROTECTION FOR THEIR EQUIPMENT. (THIS COULD BE IN CONFLICT WITH NICSMA'S ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF PROCURING OFF-THE-SHELF EQUIPMENT.)

C. NICSMA CAN PROBABLY ACCEPT COPPER, ALUMINUM, OR STEEL SHIELDING, REQUIRING ONLY THAT THE THICKNESS BE ADEQUATE TO MEET SHIELDING CRITERIA. FACTORS CONSIDERED IN DISCUSSION INCLUDED COST OF MATERIALS, FABRICATION TECHNIQUES, EFFECTS OF CORROSION AND RELATIVE MERITS OF SHIELDING MATERIALS.

D. USE OF LOCAL SHIELDING OF CRITICAL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT IS DESIRABLE WHERE FEASIBLE.

E. AUTHORITIES SHOULD MAKE DECISIONS ON HARDENING OF INDIVIDUAL PIECES OF EQUIPMENT ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

F. AS A GENERAL RULE, EMP HARDENING NORMALLY WILL NOT INCREASE THE TOTAL COST OF A BUILDING BY MORE THAN 10 PERCENT, INCLUDING COST OF SHIELDING, PENETRATION TREATMENT AND TESTING.
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6. NICSMA ANTICIPATES CEILING ANOTHER MEETING OF THIS WORKING GROUP PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF EMP HARDENING AND TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE DURING FABRICATION, VALIDATION TESTING UPON COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION, SPECIFIC PENETRATION TREATMENT, AND PREFERRED FABRICATION TECHNIQUES. NICSMA REQUESTED THAT, AT THE NEXT MEETING, NATIONS PROPOSE METHODS FOR TREATING THESE SPECIFICS.
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